

SKYLINE YURT SUMMER GUIDE²⁰¹²

Skyline yurt is ideally located for summer use. Many miles of old roads and single-track trails are easily accessed. The yurt is located on the highest point in the area just off the Skyline trail. Its elevation of 5900 feet and open, park-like setting guarantee cool evenings and breezes all summer long. The 200° view east, west and south from the yurt is one the best in the Boise National Forest. From the yurt deck you can see Wolf Mountain, Steele Mountain, Sunset Peak, and Pilot Peak. Numerous large spruce trees nearby provide a nice shaded area for picnics. A few hundred feet from the site is a prime huckleberry patch. In the fall, flaming red/yellow/orange aspens frame the mountain peaks to the east. A protected tent area is available for extra persons. The yurt site is usually snow free early May to mid November.

PLEASE READ THE SUMMER YURT MANUAL FOR MORE DETAILS AND HOW TO GET THE YURT CODE.

- **How to get the code:**

By email: judy.ditto@idpr.idaho.gov and the Yurt Coordinator will email the code back to you.

On September 15th the Forest Service locks the gate at Highway 21. From that date on, you cannot drive to the summer parking area; you will park in the Gold Fork parking lot and hike into the yurt approximately 2.2 miles to the yurt.

How To Get There (May to September 15):

Drive to the Gold Fork Park N' Ski parking lot which is 21 miles north of Idaho City on Highway 21 just past mile marker 59. About 200 feet past the Gold Fork parking lot turn right onto the first gravel forest road. You will immediately pass through a green metal road gate. Trails are marked with blue diamond shapes, called blazes, attached to trees. Drive on this primitive forest service road about .5 miles to the Skyline/Summit trail intersection, noted by a 4x4 wood signpost. Stay right on the Summit trail and continue to climb for 1.7 miles until you come to another road intersection. Turn left on the Skyline trail. Stay on the Skyline trail for about .3 miles. You will come to a locked green gate, the open area to the left of the gate is the summer parking area. Park your vehicle in the open area to the left of the green gate. Do not block the gate. Hike past the gate following the Skyline trail approximately 200 yds, you see a 4x4 post with a 2' yellow sign on it, stay to the left, follow the 5" yellow blazes up the hill approximately 100 yds to the yurt.

The yurt is located on the highest point in the area.

You cannot see the yurt from the summer parking area.

How To Get There (September 15th - until trail is closed by snow depth)

On September 15th, the US Forest Service closes the road just off Highway 21 to provide wildlife more security. The green gate is just off the highway and is locked. You must park in the Gold Fork Park N' Ski parking lot and hike or bike to the yurt following the above direction.. You do not need a parking pass until Nov 15th. **Elevation Change and Distance:**

From the summer parking area, 30 feet climbing over about 0.3 mile. From the Gold Fork Park N' Ski parking lot, 650 feet climbing over about 2.2 miles (one-way)

Dogs:

Dogs are allowed at this yurt year around.

Solar Power:

This yurt has a solar unit with four lights. Please do not change the cell panel location. Use the lights when needed , turn them off when not in use and at the end of your stay.

Wood:

Wood for the stove is located under the deck. Wood for the fire pit is on the ground surrounding the yurt site. There are several downed trees in the area which can be cut with the bow saw or axe provided. Please use downed, dry timber, as it helps clean up the area and aides in fire protection.

Water:

There is water no available in the summer this yurt . In the summer you will haul in your own drinking water and dishwashing water. A wagon or a handcart may make it easier to haul in water

Equipment Needed:

Bring two (2) one-pound propane bottles per each night of your stay, a packet of lantern mantles and a roll of paper towels. **A list of recommended items for your yurt trip is at the back of the summer yurt manual.**

Safety: The nearest telephone is in Lowman. For emergencies, call Boise County Sheriff: **1-800-479-0911** or in a medical emergency: **1-800-632-8000**. There is cell phone coverage for most cell phone systems at the high point on the Elkhorn trail once you're on top of the Banner Ridge. There is also coverage from Beaver Creek Summit on Highway 21.

Maps Needed:

Idaho City area location map

Gold Fork Park N' Sky trail map

Skyline Summer or winter trail map

Other maps of interest to your trip.

USFS Forest Road, and USGS 7.5 minute topographic "Lowman and Big Owl Creek."

Global Positioning System Locations

UTM (in NAD 83/WGS 84): Note UTM's are rounded to nearest 10 meters Gold Fork Parking Lot: 11T0611770 4870910 Skyline Yurt: 11T 0612810 4872340

Altitudes:

Gold Fork Parking Lot: **5,240**

feet Summer Parking Area:

5855 feet Skyline Yurt: **5,885**

feet

REPORT YURT DAMAGE OR MISSING ITEMS TO 208-514-2418 or 208-514-2419

PLEASE, DO NOT FEED ANY WILD ANIMALS.

IT CAN LEAD TO THE ANIMALS CHEWING OR TEARING THE YURT SKIN